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Appendix II.

[Vide answer to question No. 400 asked by Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 2nd November 1935, page 430 supra.]

Memorial from N. Subrahmanya Mudaliyar and eleven others, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works and Labour Department.

With reference to the introduction of Mettur hydro-electric power in the North Arcot district, the undersigned ryots of the village Pagavali, Walaja taluk, beg to submit this memorial to urge on the Government the necessity of the State undertaking the distribution of the rural load for reasons set forth hereunder:—

1. Private companies have no direct interest in the development of the rural area. Grant of monopoly in such cases will amount to the denial of the benefit for ever to the ryots. Licences would always follow a dog in the manger policy.
2. Licensees cannot command the necessary capital as the lay out of the transmission lines to the farthest ends would involve heavy outlay. They would always demand the ryots to show a collective load when each asks for power. As ryots have no co-operative spirit they can never get power if licensees were to get the monopoly.
3. The present experience shows that the licensees do not bestow attention to the development of agricultural load.
4. Even in the solitary instances the licensees collect such a rate that agriculture can never think of utilizing power for its development.
5. Grant of licences to individuals or bodies would necessarily lead to the failure of a scheme calculated to primarily benefit the agriculturists.
6. The State can utilize the services of the Agricultural department for purposes of propaganda which advantage none else can have.
7. The ryot population is conservative by instinct and unless the power and prestige of the Government is behind a new venture the country will be slow to take up to new innovations in agriculture.
8. Government could easily install the pumps and other machinery and collect the cost by instalments utilizing the existing machinery for the purpose.
9. Development of the rural load will bring direct and indirect benefits to the State in the long run.
10. In Mysore, the Punjab and the United Provinces, it is the State that is distributing electricity to the farmers and the licensees are avoided.

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11. If the distribution is retained in the hands of the Government the profits will be shared by the ryots and not go as dividends to capitalists.

12. Politically it is desirable that the source of power to manipulate the key industry of the country is retained in the hands of the Government.

13. The failure of the licensees to develop agricultural load will retard rural development until Doomsday.

14. The failure of licensees will permanently stand in the way of the development of electrical pumping in the Province.

15. The Government cannot find a better district than North Arcot to develop agricultural load as an object lesson to the other district and licensees in the Presidency as this district contains the largest number of wells in the Presidency, as the agricultural season in the district coincides with the season when the greatest amount of secondary power is produced in the headworks and as the soil of the district permits the cultivation of all valuable commercial and food crops.

For the reasons contained above, the development of the agricultural load in the district must be entirely in the hands of the Government and all applications for licences, it is prayed, should be summarily refused.

Appendix III.

[Vide answer to question No. 411 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 2nd November 1935, page 436 supra.]

(1)

Letter from the Commissioner, Palamcottah Municipality, dated 13th July 1935, *R.C. No.* 401/35.

[Taxes—Cycles—Reduction—Sanction requested.]

The Council has at its meeting held on 25th June 1935 resolved to reduce the cycle tax of Rs. 2 per half year to Re. 1 to take effect from 1st April 1936. The amount realized as tax on cycles in 1933–34 was Rs. 1,602 and that in 1934–35, Rs. 2,480. The increase is due to the exercise of the powers under section 107 of the District Municipalities Act V of 1920 as amended.

2. I request that the Government may be pleased to accord necessary sanction to the reduction.

3. A copy of the resolution of the Council is submitted.